UP, UP, AND AWAY—THEY GO

REACHING FOR A DREAM—FACING REALITY

Destination moon—and they made a fine start

The Mercury

Established 1854

including SOUTHSIDE NEWS, 8 pages.

93 Macquarie St. Hobart. 7000. Ph 34 4911. 70 St John St. Launceston. 7250. Ph 2 2291.

Registered at Hobart for trasmission by post as a newspaper.

116th year No. 30,735 — HOBART: THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1969 — 20 Pages 5 cents

CAPE KENNEDY (Florida). — Reaching for a dream, the Apollo 11 astronauts rocketed from earth late last night to make man's first attempt to land on the moon.

The spacecraft blasted off from earth on a pillar of orange-red flames.

Neil Armstrong, civilian commander of the historic mission, Col Edwin Aldrin, and Lieut-Col Michael Collins were propelled with awe-inspiring acceleration by the mighty Saturn rocket's first-stage thrust of 7½ million pounds.

They took off into a sunny sky, aiming first for earth orbit, reached in 12 minutes at 17,500 mph.

As they reached a speed of 25,000 mph in the first three minutes of their eight-day journey to the moon and back, ground control radioed to the astronauts — "You're looking good."

After two and a half minutes of flight and at an altitude of 40 miles, the first stage engine burned out and was jettisoned and crashed to Earth.

"Thrust is good," mission control told the crew. "All engines looking good."

"Houston, be advised the ride is very smooth today," Finally gave me a window to look out," said one of the astronauts.

At blast-off the rocket weighed on its launch pad 6½ million pounds — 3,000 tons, made certain all five liquid-fuel engines reached full thrust at 7.7 million pounds before powering the 363ft-high rocket skyward.

The astronauts reported that orbit as 101.4 by 103.8 nautical miles, but ground control adjusted these figures to 103.3 by 99.7.

This was very close to the planned circular orbit of 103.68 nautical miles.

Reports from ground stations said everything was going very businesslike.

Mr Deke Slayton has then confirmed for orbital flight. Both pilots said they were looking good," he said.

He referred to the still attached third stage of the rocket, which is to take the pair later to beat Apollo 11 toward the moon.

Within a few seconds of blast-off, the astronauts were travelling at more than 9,000ft a second.

The third stage engine burned at 7.30 pm (AEST) for 5 minutes 17 seconds, and put the spacecraft into a 103.68 nautical mile circular orbit around the earth.

After making final checks in their 115-mile high parking orbit over earth, the astronauts fired the 230-second third stage engine for the 240,000-mile journey to the moon.

The astronauts reported another engines reached full thrust of 7.7 million pounds in 2 minutes 42 seconds as planned.

Then the computer sensed, correctly, that it had accelerated four 40,000lb steel fuel-carrying arms to fling back to the pulsating giant.

With agonising slowness, the Saturn 5 climbed on a wide pillar of fire, gradually picking up speed as its hungry five-engined pulled fuel at the rate of 15 tons per second.

After 12 seconds, the guidance system tipped the rocket slightly to a south-east heading and it sped out over the Atlantic Ocean.

After making final checks in their 115-mile high parking orbit over earth, the astronauts fired the 230-second third stage engine for the 240,000-mile journey to the moon.

The third stage engine burned at 7.30 pm (AEST) for 5 minutes 17 seconds, and put the spacecraft into a 103.68 nautical mile circular orbit around the earth.

The astronauts reported another engines reached full thrust of 7.7 million pounds in 2 minutes 42 seconds as planned.

Then the computer sensed, correctly, that it had accelerated four 40,000lb steel fuel-carrying arms to fling back to the pulsating giant.

With agonising slowness, the Saturn 5 climbed on a wide pillar of fire, gradually picking up speed as its hungry five-engined pulled fuel at the rate of 15 tons per second.

After 12 seconds, the guidance system tipped the rocket slightly to a south-east heading and it sped out over the Atlantic Ocean.

Cover on hatch

At 10 pm (AEST) technicians filled over the command module hatch a special cover to protect the spacecraft during the 360,000-mile flight. It began its ascent towards earth orbit.

The protective cover was placed in position after the astronauts Michael Collins and Edwin Aldrin.

The three men were reported rested and in good spirits.

Technicians had helped them into their space suits early with bubble helmets and the American flag emblazoned on the sleeves.

They smiled and waved

76-hour cruise

Their next step, almost immediately after leaving orbit, was to separate from the third stage of the enormous Saturn rocket, jettisoning and pull the Apollo spacecraft clear, which will be flying stop the rocket stage.

After two orbits of the earth the astronauts were in glide in a 76-hour cruise to the moon where Armstrong and Aldrin will separate their cabin-like landing craft Eagle from the mother ship Columbia.

"We have lift-off"

"We have a lift-off," said launch director Mr Rocco Petrone, addressing the world.

Moon — than 1,000,000 people filled beaches, vantage areas, parking lots, and highways for the launch.

Shortly before 9 pm (AEST) the Apollo spacecraft commander Neil Armstrong reported that the spacecraft on top of the 363ft-high black and white Saturn rocket.

He was closely followed by astronauts Michael Collins and Edwin Aldrin.

The three men were reported rested and in good spirits.

Technicians had helped them into their space suits early with bubble helmets and the American flag emblazoned on the sleeves.

They smiled and waved

● Within a few seconds of blast-off, the astronauts were travelling at more than 9,000ft a second.

● Your guide to the moon, Page 12.

Little chance of sleep for trackers in Australia

CANBERRA. — As newspapers went to bed last night, more than 400 men and women around Australia had little prospects of sleep.

Space tracking staff at Australian Capital Territory, Tidbinbilla, Honeysuckle Creek and Orroral Valley will be actively tracking for nine and a half hours today from 9.45 am, and the Carnarvon station in West Australia will be tracking for 11 hours.

Staff at all three stations will have banks in dormitories to collapse into if and when schedules allow them a few hours' rest.

Most of the staff has been on the job since 10.30 yesterday morning and apart from a short break would be on duty until some time this morning.

Meals are provided all goes well with the Apollo moon flight.

Up to late last night, no changes were occurring for the final blast-off.

An elaborate system of checks and testing accompanied the whole of yesterday.

And a full programme of tracking is planned for today.

Some staff will have the chance over the next week to go home and visit their families, but at times will still be on stand-by to call for emergencies.

The Overseas Telecommunications Commission, the Australian Post Office, the ABC, and the commercial stations will also be involved in the communications link-up to the rest of the world.

Messages and television signals will be beamed to the rest of the world through the OTC's Carnarvon 210ft diameter radio telescope at Parkes, NSW, will receive the astronauts' first television pictures from the moon surface.

A vital communications link will be the Nasa switching centre at Deakin, a Canberra address shared by the Prime Min- ister (Mr Gorton).

Bureau says:

Hobart: Fine and mild Max, 55 deg. Sunrise, 7.37. Sunset, 4.58 pm. State: Early drizzle in the North and West. Fine elsewhere. Map, Page 23.

'Parliament won't run full term'

THE Government had no intention of allowing State Parliament to run for its full five-year term, the Premier (Mr Bethune) said yesterday.

He told the House of Assembly: "At a time which seems appropriate to the Government we will go to the people and we will be back for a short five years."

He was speaking on the Constitution Amendment Bill, which provides for a three-year elections after this Parliament.

The Opposition attacked the bill as election promise "perfidy".

Mr Bethune said it had been Liberal policy made clear to the people for 15 years — that three-year Parliaments would not operate immediately.

"The Government is keeping both the letter and spirit of the Liberal Government "thoroughly unpopular" by cleaning up the "mess" Labour left.

"It would not enable any new Government to implement its own policies. We have a mandate from the people and that mandate is to carry out our policy.

"This has been our policy all along."

Mr Bethune said the Government did not intend to apply three-year elections to the present

● Continued Page 2.
● Editorial, Page 4.
● Plot denied, Page 7.

STOP PRESS

Liner aground

LIVERPOOL, (Digestion). A Scandi cruise ship, the 6,813-ton Monte Ansga, ran aground with 106 passengers aboard early today. Just after setting out from Oslo for the Canary Is. The ship is being towed to a sandbank in the Mersey River, about two miles out from Liverpool docks. Passengers stayed on board and waited for tugs to refloat the ship. — AAP.

IF YOU'RE A 'FOUR' MAN — A FOUR-ON-THE-FLOOR MAN — A TWO-OR-FOUR-DOOR MAN —

You'll want to know about the GREAT DEAL now on

TORANA

— THE HOLDEN-TOUGH ONE THAT WILL OUTLAST THEM ALL

Check that Great TORANA Deal TODAY AT

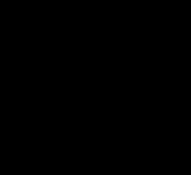
HOLDEN MOTORS PTY. LTD. TORANA

HOBART ● LAUNCESTON ● DEVONPORT

BURNIE ● ULVERSTONE ● HUONVILLE

Allans WORLD OF MUSIC

GUITARS PRICED FROM: $13.95



PIANO ACCORDIONS FROM $32.95 (WITH CASE).

147 LIVERPOOL ST, HOBART

BAY BAY

SOME accident reports make better reading than schoolboy howlers. An example: "Coming home I drove into the wrong driveway and collided with a tree I haven't got."

★

AN anxious ratepayer at Bagdad — Kingsmeadows Council Clerk yesterday begging the council not to seal the road past his house. He wanted the old dirt road for training his horse.

★

PROBABLY only sportsmen of his era know that champion Canadoe and trainer Jack Denning, of Cherriga, who last week was "a young 74," was an aggressive batsman, brilliant slip fielder, and useful nine bowler, and as a County Week player, named as one of the best cricketers of the day.

He made many centuries, but the highest he undertook was the Tea Tree against Canterbury in the late 1920's.

★

CLAREMONT housewife is impressed by the honesty of a leading Hobart store after getting $2 change for over-payment on an electrical appliance.

Top US military chiefs heads for Saigon to report on lull

SAIGON. — The United States' top military chief winged toward Saigon yesterday with orders to find out if an American de-escalation was feasible in response to the four-week-old lull in Communist activity, United Press International reported.

The Secretary of Defence, Mr Laird, secretary of State Rogers, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen Earle Wheeler, flew to Vietnam.

Diplomatic sources in Saigon said the Nixon Administration was considering a definite response to Hanoi's peace proposals on Tuesday, described Gen Earle Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in Vietnam.

US military spokesmen said Gen Wheeler would make no statements, to newsmen nor entertain questions from reporters.

"During his stay in the country, he will receive briefings at the US Command headquarters as well as consult with field commanders," Tuesday, described Gen- ment said.

"No Press will accompany him to these locations."

Gen Wheeler's assignment is primarily one of information.

Military officials have been saying the lull in enemy activity would be used by the Communists to regroup and resupply for a new offensive.

Opinion split?

A split appeal to be developing between Washington and the US Command in Saigon over how to interpret the lull in fighting.

Washington and South Vietnamese military officials in Saigon apparently differ another seasonal outburst of Vietcong attacks similar to the last "high point" on June 19.

They expect this to materialise later this month.

Captured Vietcong documents also talk of long term plans for an Autumn campaign and military pressure on Saigon is also aimed at influencing American Congressional elections next year.

But the US Embassy in Saigon says there has been no change in Washington's cautious wait-and-see line enunciated by the Secretary of State, (Mr Rogers) on July 6.

Mr Rogers said that military activity and political attention had declined to a low level and that the possibility of a political signal from Hanoi was being closely watched. — AAP.

Invasion goes on despite call

SAN SALVADOR (El Salvador). — Ignoring a call from the Organisation of American States for a full cease-fire, El Salvador pressed its invasion of Honduras yesterday and demanded that the Honduran Army surrender before being defeated on the battleground.

Diplomatic sources in San Salvador said Salvadorean forces appeared to have penetrated as much as 30 miles inside Honduras.

The Honduran Government said that its troops were fighting valiantly — pushing back the enemy.

The seven-nation peace-making commission dispatched by the OAS arrived in San Salvador on Tuesday night to erect a cease-fire in the two-day-old war, but there was no immediate indication of success.

The Salvadorean Army said its forces were going forward, conquering inch by inch the Honduran territory.

There were reports that the Army had penetrated 20 miles into South-West Honduras, and that a second column to the north was nearly 10 miles inside the border.

Under curfew

The capitals of both countries were under curfew and blackout on Tuesday night, but rain appeared to have temporarily halted air attacks by the Second World War vintage planes of the five Central American republics.

Twelve planes, eight of them Honduran, were reported shot down.

Honduran medical personnel reported civilian and military casualties from the fighting all along the border, but no Government casualty reports were available from either side.

In WASHINGTON, Senator William Fulbright said he was "embarrassed" by the warfare between Honduras and El Salvador "in what was supposed to be the United States' have the responsibility."

Both nations' armies and air forces were equipped and trained by the United States. — AAP.

● Editorial, Page 4.

GIL DUTHIE, MP

(Federal Member for Wilmot). On his 72nd tour of the electorate after 21 weeks in the House, Mr Duthie, who has Devonport as his base this week in the Richmond and Sorell areas.

Next week Mr Duthie will be visiting in the Brighton, Kempton, Bothwell, and Oatlands Municipalities.

Letters addressed to Mr Duthie, c/o local PO if you wish him to see you.

Under curfew

The capitals of both countries were under curfew and blackout on Tues-

Song marks moon shot

NEW YORK. — Versatile musician Duke Ellington has composed a new song "Moon Maiden" to mark the Apollo 11 moon shot.

The song, to be broadcast on Sunday while the astronauts are resting on the moon, will mark Ellington's debut as a singer, Duke's son, Mercer, announced today. — AAP.

KITCHEN SUITES

5-PIECE CHROME SUITE $37

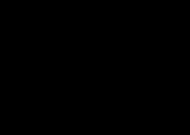
7-PIECE CHROME SUITE $59

Sale

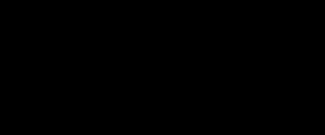
CASTLES

40 MAIN RD, MOONAH

PHONE 8 0387

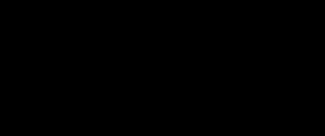


22 BEDROOM SUITES to choose from. Prices from $125



Twelve ft tufted special $7 per yd

CASTLES BROADLOOM CARPETS Rolls and rolls to choose from in beautiful Axminster and others — prices from $18 yd

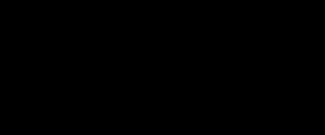


CASTLES LOUNGE SUITES:

Group 2 $125

Group 3 $149

Group 1 3-piece suite $99



Nine other suites at prices ranging from $120 to $298